We claim:

1. A method for controlling an internal combustion engine with an intake device, comprising intake pipes for intakes of cylinders of the internal combustion engine and first actuators for adjusting the effective pipe lengths of the intake pipes by closing or opening at least one opening of the intake pipes up to a hollow body and at least one second actuator for controlling the first actuators, comprising the steps of:
- within a first speed range whose upper limit is a first threshold value, moving the first actuators into a closed position,
- for a speed, exceeding a first threshold value and being less than a second threshold value, moving the first actuators into a leakage position, and
- for a speed exceeding the second threshold value, moving the first actuators into an open position.

2. The method according to claim 1, wherein for speeds exceeding the first threshold value and being less than the second threshold value, the leakage position depends on the speed.

3. The method according to claim 2, wherein as the speed increases, the leakage is increased.

4. The method according to claim 1, wherein movement of the first actuators into a leakage position also depends on a load size of the internal combustion engine.

5. The method according to claim 1, wherein for a speed less than a third threshold value that is less than the first threshold value, the first actuators can be moved into the open position.

6. The method according to claim 5, wherein the third threshold value is in the range from 900 to 1500 rpm.

7. The method according to claim 1, wherein the first threshold value is in the range from 2800 to 4000 rpm.

8. The method according to claim 1, wherein the second threshold value is in the range from 3400 to 4800 rpm.

9. A device for controlling an internal combustion engine with an intake device, comprising:

- intake pipes for intakes of cylinders of the internal combustion engine,
- first actuators for adjusting the effective pipe lengths of the intake pipes by closing or opening at least one opening of the intake pipes up to a hollow body,
- at least one second actuator for controlling the first actuators,
- first means that within a first speed range whose upper limit is a first threshold value, move the first actuators into a closed position,
- second means that for a speed, exceeding a first threshold value and being less than a second threshold value, move the first actuators into a leakage position, and
- third means that for a speed exceeding the second threshold value, move the first actuators into an open position.

10. A device for controlling an internal combustion engine with an intake device, comprising:
- intake pipes coupled with intakes of cylinders of the internal combustion engine,
- first actuators for adjusting the effective pipe lengths of the intake pipes by closing or opening at least one opening of the intake pipes up to a hollow body,
- at least one second actuator for controlling the first actuators,
- a control unit for controlling the second actuator, wherein
- within a first speed range whose upper limit is a first threshold value, the control unit controls the second actuator to move the first actuators into a closed position,
- for a speed, exceeding a first threshold value and being less than a second threshold value, the control unit controls the second actuator to move the first actuators into a leakage position, and
- for a speed exceeding the second threshold value, the control unit controls the second actuator to move the first actuators into an open position.

11. The device according to claim 10, wherein for speeds exceeding the first threshold value and being less than the second threshold value, the control unit controls the leakage position depending on the speed.

12. The device according to claim 11, wherein the control unit increases the leakage as the speed increases.

13. The device according to claim 10, wherein the control unit controls the movement of the first actuators into a leakage position depending on a load size of the internal combustion engine.

14. The device according to claim 10, wherein for a speed less than a third threshold value that is less than the first threshold value, the control unit controls the first actuators to be moved into the open position.

15. The device according to claim 14, wherein the third threshold value is in the range from 900 to 1500 rpm.

16. The device according to claim 10, wherein the first threshold value is in the range from 2800 to 4000 rpm.

17. The device according to claim 10, wherein the second threshold value is in the range from 3400 to 4800 rpm.

18. The device according to claim 10, wherein the second actuator is an electric motor.

19. The device according to claim 10, wherein the first actuators are switching flaps.

20. A method for controlling an internal combustion engine comprising the steps of:

- providing intake control means for controlling an effective pipe length of an intake pipe system by opening or closing at least one opening of the intake pipes up to a hollow body;
- determining an engine speed;
- within a first speed range whose upper limit is a first threshold value, closing the opening,
- for a speed, exceeding a first threshold value and being less than a second threshold value, controlling said opening to have a leakage, and
- for a speed exceeding the second threshold value, opening said opening.

21. The method according to claim 20, wherein for speeds exceeding the first threshold value and being less than the second threshold value, the leakage depends on the speed.

22. The method according to claim 21, wherein as the speed increases, the leakage is increased.

23. The method according to claim 20, wherein movement of the first actuators into a leakage position also depends on a load size of the internal combustion engine.

24. The method according to claim 20, wherein for a speed less than a third threshold value that is less than the first threshold value, the opening is opened.

25. The method according to claim 24, wherein the third threshold value is in the range from 900 to 1500 rpm.

26. The method according to claim 20, wherein the first threshold value is in the range from 2800 to 4000 rpm.

27. The method according to claim 20, wherein the second threshold value is in the range from 3400 to 4800 rpm.